

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Western District of Wisconsin
(608) 264-5158
TTY (608) 264-5006
www.usdoj.gov/usao/wiw

For Immediate Release

February 14, 2007

Contact Person

Assistant U.S. Attorney
Assigned to Each Case

FEDERAL GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS

Madison, Wisconsin -- A federal grand jury in the Western District of Wisconsin, sitting in Madison, returned the following indictments today. You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

LA VALLE MAN CHARGED WITH POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Kevin G. Mealer, 41, of La Valle, Wisconsin, is charged in a two-count indictment with possessing two computer hard drives that contained visual depictions of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct, and with transporting by computer a visual depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct. The indictment alleges that he possessed the two hard drives on August 17, 2004, and that the transportation of the visual depiction occurred on January 14, 2004.

If convicted, Mealer faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison for the possession charge, and not less than five years, nor more than 20 years, on the distribution charge. The charges against him are the result of an investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O'Shea.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

STOUGHTON MAN CHARGED WITH TWO BANK ROBBERIES

Todd A. Templeton, 37, of Stoughton, Wisconsin, is charged in a two-count indictment with bank robbery. Count One alleges that on December 12, 2006, Templeton robbed the Wells Fargo Bank in West Baraboo. Count Two alleges that on December 15, 2006, he robbed the Parker Community Credit Union in Janesville, and that he committed this offense by use of a dangerous weapon.

If convicted, Templeton faces a maximum penalty of 25 years in federal prison. The charges against him are the result of an investigation by the Sauk County Sheriff's Department, Janesville Police Department, Madison Police Department, Oregon Police Department, and Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney David J. Reinhard.

JANESVILLE MAN CHARGED WITH DEFRAUDING US ARMY

Jonathan R. Sinay, 26, of Janesville, Wisconsin, is charged in a two-count indictment with presenting false claims to the United States Army, a branch of the U.S. Department of Defense. Count One alleges that on September 14, 2005, Sinay made a claim for money for claiming that his dependents resided in New York, New York, in order to fraudulently receive a higher "Basic Allowance for Quarters" payment, when in fact his dependents resided in Wisconsin.

Count Two alleges that on October 17, 2005, Sinay made a claim for money by falsely claiming that another soldier had leased a residence in Santa Clara, California, in order to fraudulently trigger a higher "Basic Allowance for Quarters" payment for that soldier, a portion of which was paid to Sinay.

If convicted, Sinay faces a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison on each count. The charges against him are the result of an investigation by the United States Army, Criminal Investigation Division, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O'Shea.

EAU CLAIRE MAN CHARGED WITH THEFT FROM NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Michael J. Barstad, 46, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, is charged with stealing a pair of Civil War brass binoculars valued at more than \$1,000 on March 21, 2002, from the National Park Service in Bayfield.

If convicted, Barstad faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison. The charge against him is the result of an investigation by the National Park Service. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O'Shea.

MAN CHARGED WITH RE-ENTRY AFTER DEPORTATION

Juan Olivas-Zavala, 36, a citizen of Mexico, is charged with intentionally entering the United States after previously being deported. The indictment alleges that Olivas-Zavala was found in the United States on November 29, 2006.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of ten years in federal prison. The charge against him is the result of an investigation by the Department of Homeland Security-Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Anderson.

#